

**Enck, Judith**

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**From:** Mears, Mary  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 09, 2015 11:39 AM  
**To:** LaPosta, Dore; Gorman, John; Aber, Bruce; Schaaf, Eric; Enck, Judith; McCabe, Catherine  
**Subject:** IMPORTANT: CNN request

Hi all,

Exemption 5 (Deliberative Process Privilege) Attorney-Client Privilege

[REDACTED]

Exemption 5 (Deliberative Process Privilege) Attorney-Client Privilege

[REDACTED]

Mary Mears  
Acting Director Public Affairs and Chief Public Outreach Branch  
U.S. EPA Region 2 (NJ, NY, PR, the US VI and eight Indian Nations)  
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**From:** Ganim, Sara [mailto:Sara.Ganim@turner.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 09, 2015 11:28 AM  
**To:** Mears, Mary  
**Subject:** Re: CNN interview

Of course.

For the first question: I have two sources who have told us that the buyer and distributor are supposed to record with the EPA when methyl bromide is purchased. Both sources told me that while it was recorded, a reason for use was not filled out. I do not have the name of the form.

Second, Joe Williamson, the PSEP director in the USVI told me that no funding has been received for training since 2012, and as a result, he was not able to travel and offer classes on St. Thomas. Jose Rivera came to him last year and applied for recertification, not having taken the class because it was not offered. He was recertified anyway.

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Sara Ganim  
CNN Investigative Correspondent  
New York, NY  
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954-663-2523

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**From:** Mears, Mary <Mears.Mary@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 9, 2015 11:23 AM

**To:** Ganim, Sara  
**Subject:** RE: CNN interview

Hi Sara,

I want to give you as thorough a response as I can, given the limitations of the fact that we are in the midst of an ongoing investigation, but I have a couple of follow up questions just to clarify what you are asking:

Can you be more specific about the form you are referring to in the first item? Most information is not directly sent to EPA, except information about MeBr emissions under the CAA and Montreal Protocol (as opposed to the pesticides program).

In terms of the third item, can you be more specific about which class you are referring to? The requirements for re-certification generally involve a certain amount of education credits, but I am not sure there are requirements for a specific class.

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**From:** Ganim, Sara [<mailto:Sara.Ganim@turner.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 09, 2015 9:52 AM  
**To:** Mears, Mary  
**Subject:** Re: CNN interview

We will be reporting on several updates in the investigation, including the fact that Jose Rivera purchased the methyl bromide in Puerto Rico and left blank the part of the EPA form that required he and the distributor state why it was being purchased and what it would be used for.

My question is, why didn't the EPA catch this earlier?

In addition, I'd like to know why the EPA continues to allow the DPNR to be a branch of the EPA when it has repeatedly shown lack of management and corruption and the EPA's own OIG recommended the EPA take over.

I'd also like to know if she has comment about the fact that the DPNR has not paid for pesticide training since 2012, even though the EPA has given them nearly \$100,000 in money for that purpose. This lead to Jose Rivera being re-certified last year without taking the proper class.

Thanks,  
Sara

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